

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A process for producing a fullerene shell tube, which comprises heat-treating a fullerene whisker or fiber at a temperature of from 500 to 1,000°C in vacuum of 1 Pa to form a fullerene shell tube which has an amorphous carbon wall and whose inside is hollow.

2. (Original) The process for producing the fullerene shell tube according to claim 1, wherein the fullerene is C₆₀ fullerene, a higher-order fullerene having the carbon number of 70 or more, a metal-containing fullerene or fullerene derivatives.

3. (Currently Amended) A fullerene shell tube in which a diameter is in the range of from 10 nm to 100 μm, and a length is 100 nm or more, the tube wall comprises amorphous carbon, and the inside is hollow.

4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently Amended) The fullerene shell tube according to claim 3-~~or~~4, wherein the end of the tube is closed or open.

6. (Canceled)